REMARKS

Reconsideration and examination of the present application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action states in paragraph 2.b. on pages 2-3:

Newly submitted claims 75-106 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed * * *.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 75-106 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. * * *

The Office Action states in paragraph 2.c. on page 3:

Application will be allowed upon the cancellation of claims 75-106.

Because claims 75-106 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted the present application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to help expedite any further prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 17, 2004

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